--- RG-658 - 10 Cigars - Series “C” - 1938 - *perforated 11* - 22 x 28 mm. - scanned at 150% scale ---

--- “Imperial Tobacco”, Granby [2-23D] - 1940-43 ---

With the Budget of June 1940 Granby’s usage of the *black* oblong fine roulette **G-345** ceased, and they began using **RG-658**, the small ***violet*** ten cigar Series “C” stamp, with the hidden letters “H-N” (Chris Ryan reports that the die was submitted for approval on May 31, 1938). It is first listed date coded by Granby in ***black ink*** for December 1940, and their coding switched to ***red ink*** in July 1942 - probably to denote stamps purchased under the 1942 excise tax rates - and their usage is last recorded in November 1942. BABN records that they were printed in sheets of 130 stamps – probably 13 x 10.

RG-658 - 10 cigars, perforated 11,
coded **2-23D / CKD** in December 1940

RG-658 - 10 cigars, perforated 11,
coded **2-23D / AMC** in July 1942

[RG-658]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1940	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	CKD
1941	ALA	BLA	CLA	---	---	CLB	ALC	---	---	ALD	BLD	---
1942	---	---	CMA	---	BMB	---	AMC	BMC	CMC	AMD	BMD	---
1943	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Note: the copies from July 1942 are cancelled in red ink under the Budget of June 1942. Probably both black and red coded copies exist for June 1942, and possibly the red ink cancellation may be found until March 1943, however Granby’s use of the larger *fine roulette* oblong black **RG-619** (cancelled in ***red ink***) started in early 1943, and the cancellation colour switched to ***blue ink*** in August 1943 to indicate production under the new excise reporting methods of the 1943 Budget.

My last recorded Granby usage of the oblong black **RG-619** is from January 1950, and then they began using the small violet ***imperforate*** **RG-657**, with several sets of cancellations that, to date, I am unable to decipher with any degree of certitude - see overleaf.

NOTE: All of the black or red codes listed (e.g. **1ATC, 125, 4205** etc.) are found in the cancellation collection. Any codes highlighted in yellow (e.g. **3BBC**) were taken from eBay and ***are not*** in the collection.

--- RG-657 – coded with a single 5 mm. Gothic four-digit horizontal blue number ---

--- "Imperial Tobacco", Granby [2-23D] - from 1952-54 ---

The first use of **RG-657**, the violet *imperforate* ten cigar Series "C", by "Imperial Tobacco", Granby, occurs using 4 mm. Gothic dark blue four digit code numbers, probably from 1952. These match similar numbers found at the same time on the five and six cigar small size Series "C cigar stamps.

At **2363** the cancellation is in blue ink, and the 5 mm. **2-23D** company code now reads horizontally across the middle. I would guess that the numbers prefixed **2000** represent 1952.

RG-657 - 10 Cigars, *imperforate*, coded **2-23D / 2363** by "Imperial Tobacco", Granby,

---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	**2363**	---	---	---
2401	---	---	**2432**	---	---	**2462**	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

And in the **3000** range the following has been found. The fourth digit presents a problem. I would like to think that it represents the day of the week, but I have located very few examples.

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---	---	---	**3136**	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

on the olive-green five cigar **RG-653**, the following occur - **2363**; **3101**; **3136**; **3164**; **4130**
on the orange-red six cigar **RG-655**, the following occur - **2332**; **2462**; **4130** and **212**
on the dark violet ten cigar **RG-657**, the following occur - **2363**; **2401**; **2432**; **2462**; **3136**

From eBay - a horizontal **2-23D / 207**

--- RG-657 – coded with twin 5 mm. Gothic four-digit vertical black numbers ---

--- "Imperial Tobacco", Granby [2-23D] - from 1954? ---

The use of the violet *imperforate* ten cigar Series "C" **RG-657** continues with ***twin black*** four digit 4 mm. Gothic numbers reading vertically down, and with **2-23D** - the company code - in heavy 2½ mm. Gothic, horizontally across the bottom.

Under the April 6th 1954 Budget, the sequence has abandoned the week / day numbering, and has gone to a continuous sequence reading the month of production.

RG-657 - 10 Cigars, imperforate, coded **4177 / 2-23D / 4177** by "Imperial Tobacco", Granby, in 1954

---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4138	---
---	---	---	---	---	4145	---	---	---	4149
4150	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
4160	---	---	---	---	---	4166	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4177	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4188	---
---	4191	---	---	---	---	---	4197	4198	---

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1938 - Series C \ 2-23D \ 10 Cigars],
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October 22nd 2013, JBH